



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND  
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231  
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MAR 12 2003

Director's Office  
Group 3700

COPY

Alfred M. Walker  
225 Old Country Road  
Melville, NY 11747-2712

In re application of  
John E. Baker

: DECISION ON PETITION  
: TO MAKE SPECIAL  
: UNDER 37 CFR. 1.102(c)

Application Number: 10/294438  
Filed: November 14, 2002

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For: ANNULAR TRIGGER LEVER GUARD FOR GARDEN HOSE NOZZLE

This is a decision on the petition filed on November 14, 2002, under 37 CFR. 1.102(c) to make special the above identified application because of the age/health of the applicant. Since the requirements of the M.P.E.P Section 708.02 IV have been met, the petition will be GRANTED.

The examiner is directed (1) to make an interference search for possible interfering applications, (2) to promptly examine this application out of turn, and (3) if any interfering application is discovered, to examine such application simultaneously and state in the first official letter of such application that it is being taken out of turn because of a possible interference.

Petitioner is advised that this application will continue to be special, throughout its entire prosecution and pendency, including interference or appeal, if any, only if Petitioner makes a prompt bona-fide effort, in response to each Office action, to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to conduct an interview with the Examiner to accomplish this purpose.

Summary: Decision on Petition GRANTED.

Richard A. Bertsch  
Director  
Technology Center 3700  
(703) 308-0975

rt: 03/11/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: John E. Baker  
TITLE: ANNULAR TRIGGER LEVER GUARD FOR  
GARDEN HOSE NOZZLE  
SERIAL NO.: To be assigned  
FILED: To be assigned  
EXAMINER: To be assigned  
GROUP ART UNIT: To be assigned

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Commissioner of Patents  
Office of the Assistant  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner of Patents to make the above entitled application special based on Applicant's being over seventy years of age, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.102(c).

The subject matter of the above-identified patent application relates to a handle guard for a garden hose nozzle.

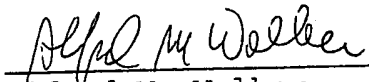
Annexed hereto are the Declarations of Applicant, and Applicant's attorney, Alfred Walker, together with Applicant's birth certificate attesting to his age.

The birth certificate notes that Applicant was born on August 15, 1922.

Based upon the above, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant is entitled to have the above-identified patent application made special, based upon Applicant being over seventy (70) years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 14, 2002

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alfred M. Walker

Petition

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: John E. Baker  
TITLE: ANNULAR TRIGGER LEVER GUARD FOR  
GARDEN HOSE NOZZLE  
SERIAL NO.: To be assigned  
FILED: To be assigned  
EXAMINER: To be assigned  
GROUP ART UNIT: To be assigned

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

John E. Baker, declares:

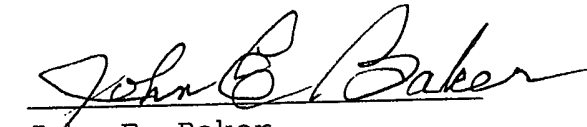
I am the Applicant in the above identified patent application. I make this Declaration in support of my Petition to Make Special in the above-identified application on the grounds of my age.

The subject matter of the above-identified relates to a HANDLE GUARD FOR A GARDEN HOSE NOZZLE.

As noted on the annexed birth certificate, I was born on August 15, 1922. I am therefore 80 years old, and entitled to have my patent application examined expeditiously on a special basis.

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this documents, the application, or any patent issuing thereon.

DATED: November 13, 2002

  
John E. Baker

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: John E. Baker  
SERIAL NO.: to be assigned  
TITLE: ANNULAR TRIGGER LEVER GUARD FOR  
GARDEN HOSE NOZZLE  
FILED: to be assigned  
EXAMINER: to be assigned  
GROUP ART UNIT: to be assigned

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington DC 20231

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Alfred M. Walker, declares:

I am the attorney for the Applicant in the above-identified patent application. I am a member of the bar of the State of New York and a registered Patent Attorney, Registration No. 29,983. I make this Declaration in support of Applicant's Petition to Make Special in the above-identified application.

The subject matter of the above-identified application relates to a handle guard for a garden hose nozzle.

A thorough and careful search was conducted in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Applicant is therefore aware of the enclosed prior art in the annexed Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement. These prior art patents have been thoroughly evaluated.

THIS CERTIFICATE IS THE PROPERTY OF THE FAMILY, IT MUST NOT BE RETAINED BY ANY ONE ELSE

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS  
ALBANY

This is to Certify that a

**Certificate of Birth**

has been filed for John Edwin Baker  
born on Aug 10 1922 whose parents are  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Augustine Baker (Father)  
and Lena Baker (Mother)  
(Maiden Name)

Harold Hoff (Local Registrar)  
Albany (City, Town, Village) Aug 30 1922